

REMARKS

Claims 1- 22 are pending and at issue. Of these, claims 1, 16, and 21 are independent. Claims 1-22 stand rejected as obvious over Ulrich (U.S. Patent No. 6,052,735) in view of Schneider (U.S. Patent No. 6,015,553). Additionally, claims 7-15 are rejected as obvious over Ulrich in view of Schneider and Flanagan (U.S. Patent No. 6,272,545). Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Claims 1 and 21 are amended to correct typographical errors. These corrections are not made for patentability issues.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-22 as obvious over Ulrich in view of Schneider. Each of the pending claims recites, in part, a method or a device for selecting first personal information management (PIM) data as a primary data field for display on a personal digital assistant (PDA) and second PIM data as a subordinate data field if a first field identifier matches a second field identifier and a first time stamp is later than a second time stamp. Neither Ulrich nor Schneider discloses selecting primary and subordinate PIM data having the same field identifier using time stamps. Therefore, Ulrich and Schneider cannot render any of pending claims 1-22 obvious.

The office action concedes that Ulrich does not teach selecting the first PIM data as a primary data field and the second PIM data as a subordinate data field if the first field identifier matches the second field identifier and the first time stamp is later than the second time stamp. Instead, the office action points to Schneider for such a teaching. While Schneider discloses a disk drive data backup management system that allows a user to retrieve old data from a history buffer and replace new data with old data, Schneider does not disclose relating PIM data by field identifiers and designating primary and secondary PIM

data fields based on time stamps. Specifically, Schneider does not disclose using field identifiers to identify related data (e.g., name or address data). Instead, because Schneider is primarily concerned with gross backup of data on a disk drive; data is tracked by clusters of memory blocks that correspond to consecutive write sequences (see Schneider Col. 12, line 43 - Col. 14, line 21). This means that data is not identified by type, only by aggregation.

Schneider discloses a history buffer that continually records a copy of new data from an active memory partition of a disk drive. This is a rotating swap scheme where the history buffer acts like a queue and continually discards/overwrites the oldest data as it is pushed out of the queue by newer data. The device and method of the pending claims, on the other hand, allow a user to analyze and manage stored PDA information by data type. For example, address information is stored in a memory block designated by an address field identifier, which specifically identifies that block of data as storing address information. The user can then look at address field information alone (both primary and secondary address fields) to determine which data should be preserved. Schneider does not disclose this in any manner because Schneider only discloses a queue system for overwriting old blocks of data in a memory queue, without regard to what type of data is stored therein. It follows, therefore, that Schneider cannot disclose identifying related data belonging to the same data field and thus, Schneider does not disclose selecting a first PIM data as a primary data field and a second PIM data as a subordinate data field if the first field identifier matches the second field identifier and the first time stamp is later than the second time stamp, as set forth in the claims.

Because neither Ulrich nor Schneider teach selecting the first PIM data as a primary data field and the second PIM data as a subordinate data field if the first field identifier

matches the second field identifier and the first time stamp is later than the second time stamp, no combination of Ulrich and Schneider cannot render the pending claims obvious.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 7-15 as obvious over Ulrich in view of Schneider and Flanagin. While Flanagin discloses a system and method of communication between a PDA and a computer that includes synchronizing time and date clocks of a computer and connected mobile devices, Flanagin does not address the deficiency in Ulrich and Schneider, i.e., selecting a first PIM data as a primary data field and a second PIM data as a subordinate data field if a first field identifier matches a second field identifier and a first time stamp is later than a second time stamp. Therefore, no combination of Ulrich, Schneider, and Flanagin can render pending claims 1-22 obvious.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that this case is in a condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of rejected claims 1-22.

If there are matters that can be discussed by telephone to further the prosecution of this application, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call its attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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